

price contracts under which the Government will provide progress payments based on costs.

(b) If the contractor is a small business concern, the contracting officer shall use the clause with its Alternate I.

(c) If the contract is a letter contract, the contracting officer shall use the clause with its Alternate II.

(d) If the nature of the contract necessitates separate progress payment rates for portions of work that are clearly severable and accounting segregation would be maintained (e.g., annual production requirements), the application of separate progress payment rates shall be fully described in a supplementary special provision within the contract. Separate progress payment requests and subsequent invoices shall be submitted by the contractor for the severable portions of work in order to maintain accounting integrity.

[48 FR 42328, Sept. 19, 1983, as amended 52 FR 30077, Aug. 12, 1987]

32.503 Postaward matters.

This section covers matters that are generally relevant only after award of a contract. This does not preclude taking actions discussed here before award, if appropriate; e.g., preaward review of accounting systems and controls.

32.503-1 Contractor requests.

Each contractor request for progress payment shall—

(a) Be submitted on Standard Form 1443, Contractor's Request for Progress Payment;

(b) Comply with the instructions appropriate to the applicable form, and the contract terms; and

(c) Include any additional information reasonably requested by the contracting officer.

[48 FR 42328, Sept. 19, 1983, as amended at 60 FR 34739, July 3, 1995]

32.503-2 Supervision of progress payments.

(a) The extent of progress payments supervision, by prepayment review or periodic review, should vary inversely with the contractor's experience, per-

formance record, reliability, quality of management, and financial strength, and with the adequacy of the contractor's accounting system and controls. Supervision shall be of a kind and degree sufficient to provide timely knowledge of the need for, and timely opportunity for, any actions necessary to protect Government interests.

(b) The administering office must keep itself informed of the contractor's overall operations and financial condition, since difficulties encountered and losses suffered in operations outside the particular progress payment contract may affect adversely the performance of that contract and the liquidation of the progress payments.

(c) For contracts with contractors (1) whose financial condition is doubtful or not strong in relation to progress payments outstanding or to be outstanding, (2) with management of doubtful capacity, (3) whose accounting controls are found by experience to be weak, or (4) experiencing substantial difficulties in performance, full information on progress under the contract involved (including the status of subcontracts) and on the contractor's other operations and overall financial condition should be obtained and analyzed frequently, with a view to protecting the Government's interests better and taking such action as may be proper to make contract performance more certain.

(d) So far as practicable, all cost problems, particularly those involving indirect costs, that are likely to create disagreements in future administration of the contract should be identified and resolved at the inception of the contract (see 31.109).

32.503-3 Initiation of progress payments and review of accounting system.

(a) For contractors that the administrative contracting officer (ACO) has found by previous experience or recent audit review (within the last 12 months) to be (1) reliable, competent, and capable of satisfactory performance, (2) possessed of an adequate accounting system and controls, and (3) in sound financial condition, progress payments in amounts requested by the